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ABSTRACT

This is the second annual report on public school dropouts in Delaware. The purpose of the report is to provide an accurate statistical description of school dropouts to dispel any stereotypes that might hinder development of programs to aid dropouts. The data presented was compiled from monthly reports submitted by local school districts to the State Department of Public Instruction during the 1973-74 school year. The information includes sex, race, age, grade, course of study, and reason for leaving school. Each variable is analyzed singly and in combination with every other variable. Although most of the data pertains to the state as a whole, the appendix contains a statistical breakdown of the number of dropouts by district, county, and grade level. The appendix also contains a copy of the processing form used by school districts to report dropout data to the State Department of Public Instruction. (Author/JG)

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STATE OF DELAWARE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

DROPOUT REPORT
DELAWARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
1973-74

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DROPOUT REPORT

DELAWARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
1973-74

HIGHLIGHTS

* In Delaware, high school dropouts represent 3.7 percent of the total public high school enrollment for grades seven through twelve. The typical dropout is a white male over 16 years of age, pursuing a general course of study, who leaves during his junior year because he dislikes school.

* Consistent with the findings of other studies more males than females drop out of school (59.2 percent versus 38.2 percent with 2.8 percent not reported). However, the average age of female dropouts is 16 as opposed to 17 or older for males, suggesting greater pressure on males to complete school in order to increase their job eligibility.

* The proportion of minority students is higher among dropouts than among the general student body (26 percent versus 19.5 percent).

* Fifty-four percent of high school dropouts are reported to be enrolled in a general course of study.

* One of every five dropouts left school during the senior year. One of three left during the junior year.

* The most frequent reason given for dropping out is dislike of school environment (29.3 percent). The next two most important reasons are over age and acceptance of employment.

INTRODUCTION

The "dropout problem" has come into focus as a national, state, and local dilemma at a time when the proportion of students leaving school before graduation has reached nearly its lowest levels. However, in an age of automation and economic instability, the dropout is relegated to a life of low-paying, menial jobs. In a nation where the public schools are charged with the responsbility of preparing youth to take a meaningful role in the working world, the student who drops out, no matter how few the numbers, presents a major concern to all citizens.

Purpose of this Study

This second annual report on Delaware public school dropouts is intended to dispel any stereotypes that may hinder the development of effective programs to aid the student who drops out.

The study provides descriptive data compiled from monthly reports submitted by the local public school districts. The reports also provide names and addresses for contact by the Adult and High School Extension Program of the State Department of Public Instruction.

Definition of Dropout

A dropout is defined as a student "who leaves school or discontinues his schooling for any reason, except death, before graduation or completion of a program of studies and without transferring to another school. The term is used most often to designate an elementary or secondary school student who has been in membership during the regular school term and who withdraws from membership before graduating from secondary school (grade 12) or before completing an equivalent program of studies. Such an individual is considered as having discontinued his schooling whether this occurs during or between regular school terms, whether it occurs before or after he/she has passed the compulsory school attendance age, and, where applicable, whether or not he/she has completed a minimum required amount of school work."[1]

Methodology

Data on dropouts from Delaware's public schools is compiled from monthly reports submitted by the local school districts to the State Department of Public Instruction. The information includes sex, race, age,

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[1]Putnam, John F. Student/Pupil Accounting: A Handbook of Standard Terminology. Washington, D. C.: United States Office of Education, 1973.

grade, course of study, and reason for leaving school. Each variable is analyzed singly, then, with the aid of a computer, is analyzed in combination with every other variable. The results appearing here are for the state as a whole, but similar tabulations are also available for each school district.

All data has been checked for accuracy and completeness by the Planning, Research, and Evaluation Division, State Department of Public Instruction, before submission to the State Division of Central Data Processing. Efforts were made to obtain missing information, but in some instances, this information was not available.

A copy of the processing form is attached as Appendix A. Appendix B shows the breakdown for each school district.

FINDINGS

In the academic year 1973-74, 2,326 students were reported as dropouts by public schools in Delaware. This number represents 3.7 percent of the state's total enrollment in grades 7 to 12. A comparison between data for 1972-73 and 1973-74 is included as Appendix C.

Discussions of Single Variables

Table 1 shows the number and percent of dropouts by sex. The data are consistent with previously reported data for Delaware,[2] as well as for other states.[3] It suggests that males are more likely to leave school prior to graduation than are females.

TABLE 1

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF DROPOUTS BY SEX

Sex	Number	Percent
Male	1,373	59.0
Female	887	38.1
Not Reported	66	2.9
	2,326	100.0

[2]Mohrmann, Jeanne. Dropout Report: Delaware Public Schools, 1972-73. Dover, Delaware: November 9, 1973. (Mimeographed).

[3]Schreiber, Daniel. Profile of the School Dropout. New York: 1967.

Table 2 shows that minority students are slightly over-represented among dropouts. Among Delaware public school students, 20.6 percent are of minority background, while 26.2 percent of dropouts are of minority identification. Nevertheless, nearly three-fourths of Delaware's dropouts are white.

TABLE 2

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF DROPOUTS BY RACE

Race	Number	Percent
Black	602	25.9
White	1,653	71.1
Other*	5	.2
Not Reported	66	2.8
Total	2,326	100.0

*Includes Oriental, Spanish surnamed, and American Indian ancestry.

Table 3 indicates that only a very small proportion (5.3 percent) of the dropouts leave school before the legal age of 16. While more than 90 percent of dropouts remain in school at least until age 16, more than 50 percent remain until 17 or older. Even though state law requires attendance until 16, there is apparently something in the school environment that holds students past their sixteenth year.

TABLE 3

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF DROPOUTS BY AGE

Age	Number	Percent
Less than 15	30	1.3
15	95	4.1
16	869	37.4
More than 16	1,266	54.4
Not Reported	66	2.8
Total	2,326	100.0

As Table 4 indicates, nearly one of every three dropouts enters the junior year and one of five enters the last year of high school. The high percentage of dropouts who leave school at the tenth grade level may be due in part to the transition and accompanying adjustment problems upon entering senior high school. Also, during the sophomore year, students have reached the legal age at which they may drop out, perhaps stimulating egress at this stage.

TABLE 4

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF DROPOUTS BY GRADE

Grade	Number	Percent
7	13	0.6
8	28	1.2
9	429	18.4
10	606	26.1
11	728	31.3
12	456	19.6
Not Reported	66	2.8
Total	2,326	100.0

Table 5 shows the number and percent of dropouts by the course in which the dropout was enrolled. The figures indicate that a majority of those who leave school before graduation are enrolled in a general curriculum. One possible explanation is this: since general education provides limited study in a number of areas, the student is less likely or has less opportunity to develop a specific interest, which might contribute to the reason for staying in school. Another possibility is that the student is unsure of the direction he/she wishes to pursue, and so is placed in a general program in the hope that the pupil will discover a particular aptitude. However, without proper and effective counseling, the student is more likely to leave school.[4]

In addition, dropouts from a vocational-technical program appear to run far ahead of dropouts from a vocational-regular program.

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[4]Delaware ranks forty-fifth in the nation in counseling provided on K through 6 level and thirty-eighth on the 7 through 12 basis. (Source: Department of Public Instruction and State Board of Education, Annual Report, 1973-74. October, 1974.)

TABLE 5

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF DROPOUTS BY COURSE IN SCHOOL

Course in School	Number	Percent
Academic	84	3.6
Commercial	150	6.5
General	1,254	53.9
Special Education	61	2.6
Vocational-Regular*	84	3.6
Vocational-Technical*	255	11.0
Not Reported	438	18.8
Total	2,326	100.0

*Two types of vocational education are indicated: vocational-regular is a vocational program within a regular high school, while vocational-technical indicates separate school facilities for vocational education.

As Table 6 indicates, there are several major reasons most often given for leaving school. About one of every four students gives dislike of school as the reason, while nearly one of three decides to quit either for employment reasons or because he/she is over the age for the grade membership.

TABLE 6

NUMBER AND PERCENT OF DROPOUTS BY REPORTED REASON

Reason*	Number	Percent
Employed	398	17.1
Economic	46	2.0
Military	98	4.2
Marriage	130	5.6
Social	81	3.5
Physical	16	.7
Expelled	32	1.4
Corrections	37	1.6
Dislike School	662	28.4
Failure	74	3.2
Over Age	404	17.4
Other	165	7.1
Not Reported	183	7.8
Totals	2,326	100.0

*Reasons are as defined on the reporting form. Explanations are given in Appendix D.

There are several problems with the method used in reporting the reason for dropping out. First, the categories are not mutually exclusive; that is, there may be more than one reason for leaving school, but only one, the primary reason, often arbitrarily determined, is recorded. As a result, the reported reason may represent a guess on the part of the person who supplies the information.

Second, as evidenced by examination of the statistics for each school district, certain categories are used more often in some districts than in others. Numbers reported in the over age category for one district appear to be way out of line with the state average (69 percent in district versus 17.4 percent for state). This may result from instructions that assign unknowns to the over age category rather than to a not reported category.

Discussions of Two-Variable Combinations

In order to determine the presence of any association between two variables, each variable was cross-tabulated with every other variable, e.g., age by sex or grade by sex. The following tables show the results of these tabulations. (Percent of totals is in parentheses.)

Table 7 shows one marked variation from the expected pattern: among blacks, a dropout is nearly as likely to be female as male. Among whites, a dropout is more likely to be male than female.

TABLE 7

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY RACE AND SEX

Race	Male	Female	Total
Black	341	261	602 (25.9)
White	1,031	622	1,653 (71.0)
Other	1	4	5 (0.2)
Not Reported	-	-	66 (2.8)
Total	1,373 (59.0)	887 (38.1)	2,326 (100.0)

Table 8 reveals several interesting correlations. Those dropouts who had been enrolled in the general course of study are nearly as likely to be male as female (58.8 percent of males versus 50.4 percent of the females). In general, the enrollment in the commercial curricula tends to be predominantly female, explaining the overrepresentation of female dropouts in this course of study (14.0 percent of the females versus 0.1 percent of the males). The reverse is true in the vocational courses: more males are enrolled in vocational curricula, and thus, males would tend to be overrepresented among dropouts from such curricula.

The unreported category appears to be overloaded, since it seems, course enrollment information is not readily available.

TABLE 8

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY COURSE AND SEX

Course	Sex				Total	
	Male		Female			
Academic	45		39		84	(3.6)
Commercial	26		124		150	(6.5)
General	807		447		1,254	(53.9)
Special Education	37		24		61	(2.6)
Vocational-Regular	66		18		84	(3.6)
Vocational-Technical	181		74		255	(11.0)
Not Reported	211		161		438*	(18.8)
Total	1,373	(59.0)	887	(38.1)	2,326	(100.0)

*This includes 66 students for whom no additional information is available.

As shown in Table 9, those who leave school before attaining the legal age are as likely to be male as female. There is no sex differentiation among those who leave school after their sixteenth birthday, but a slightly higher proportion of females drop out at age 16, and males appear to remain in school slightly longer perhaps due to pressures to be better prepared to pursue a work career.

TABLE 9

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY SEX AND AGE

Age	Sex				Total	
	Male		Female			
Under 15	15		15		30	(1.3)
15	51		44		95	(4.1)
16	504		365		869	(37.4)
Over 16	803		463		1,266	(54.4)
Not Reported	-		-		66	(2.8)
Total	1,373	(59.0)	887	(38.1)	2,326	(100.0)

As demonstrated in Table 10, the grade distribution of dropouts concentrates most heavily in the high school years, so that it appears that most dropouts have at least an eighth grade education. Leaving school occurs more often in the tenth and eleventh grades, leading one to assume that if a student makes it to the senior year, he/she will graduate. There appears to be little difference between males and females, except in seventh and eighth grade, where more males drop out than females.

TABLE 10

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY SEX AND GRADE

Grade	Sex		Total	
	Male	Female		
7	11	2	13	(0.6)
8	19	9	28	(1.2)
9	277	152	429	(18.4)
10	378	228	606	(26.1)
11	423	305	728	(31.3)
12	265	191	456	(19.6)
Not Reported	-	-	66	(2.8)
Total	1,373 (59.0)	887 (38.1)	2,326	(100.0)

As expected, males dominate the employment, military, expulsion, and corrections categories while females dominate the marriage and social classifications. For both males and females, the reason given for leaving school is most often distaste for the school environment. As indicated previously, these numbers may be misleading, due to the imprecise method of reporting.

TABLE 11

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY SEX AND REASON

Reason	Sex		Total	
	Male	Female		
Employed	291	107	398	(17.1)
Economic	36	10	46	(2.0)
Military	97	1	98	(4.2)
Marriage	11	119	130	(5.6)
Social	2	79	81	(3.5)
Physical	6	10	16	(0.7)
Expelled	26	6	32	(1.4)
Corrections	28	9	37	(1.6)
Dislike School	426	236	662	(28.4)
Repeated Failure	52	22	74	(3.2)
Over Age	243	161	404	(17.3)
Other	89	76	165	(7.1)
Not Reported	66	51	183*	(7.9)
Total	1,373 (59.0)	887 (38.1)	2,326	(100.0)

*This includes 66 students for whom no additional information is available.

Data is not reported for 40 percent of black dropouts, compared to 8 percent of white dropouts. For the data reported, as expected, the majority of dropouts had been enrolled in a general course of study. Of students who were in vocational programs, and had dropped out, white dropouts outnumber black by two to one in regular vocational programs and three to one in technical schools. It must be kept in mind that nearly 75 percent of all dropouts are white.

TABLE 12

NUMBERS OF DROPOUTS BY
COURSE IN SCHOOL AND RACE

Course	Race						Total	
	Black		White		Other			
Academic	8		76		0		84	(3.6)
Commercial	17		133		0		150	(6.5)
General	216		1,036		2		1,254	(53.9)
Special Education	28		33		0		61	(2.6)
Vocational-Regular	29		55		0		84	(3.6)
Vocational-Technical	62		193		0		255	(11.0)
Not Reported	242		127		3		438*	(18.8)
Total	602	(25.9)	1,653	(71.1)	5	(0.2)	2,326	(100.0)

*This includes 66 students for whom no additional information is available.

Since Delaware has a compulsory school attendance age of 16, it would be expected that dropouts would be 16 or older. The evidence presented in Table 13 supports this. Of those who drop out before 16, 80 percent are white. This is contrary to the popular stereotype.

Another surprising distribution appears. It appears that proportionately more black students stay in school past their sixteenth year, whereas a higher proportion of white students drop out at the age of 16. Among other minorities (Oriental, Spanish surnamed, American Indian), 100 percent remained in school until the compulsory attendance age.

TABLE 13

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY AGE AND RACE

Age	Race						Total	
	Black		White		Other			
Under 15	6		24		0		30	(1.3)
15	19		76		0		95	(4.1)
16	201		666		2		869	(37.4)
Over 16	376		887		3		1,266	(54.4)
Not Reported	-		-		-		66	(2.8)
Total	602	(25.9)	1,653	(71.0)	5	(0.2)	2,326	(100.0)

The data presented in Table 14 shows that for each grade level, except grade seven, both blacks and whites are distributed as would be expected from their proportions of the total number of dropouts. In grade seven, white students drop out at a rate of 92 percent, compared to 71 percent of the total number of dropouts.

TABLE 14

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY RACE AND GRADE

Grade	Race						Total	
	Black		White		Other			
7	1		12		0		13	(0.6)
8	7		21		0		28	(1.2)
9	109		318		2		429	(18.4)
10	169		436		1		606	(26.1)
11	193		534		1		728	(31.3)
12	123		332		1		456	(19.6)
Not Reported	-		-		0		66	(2.8)
Total	602	(25.9)	1,653	(71.1)	5	(0.2)	2,326	(100.0)

As indicated before, the major reasons given for leaving school are dislike of school, employment, and over age. Breakdown by race indicates no deviation from this pattern. White and minority students leave school for the same reported reasons.

TABLE 15

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY RACE AND REASON

Reason	Race			Total
	Black	White	Other	
Employed	79	318	1	398
Economic	13	33	0	46
Military	23	75	0	98
Marriage	10	119	1	130
Social	39	42	0	81
Physical	5	11	0	16
Expelled	13	19	0	32
Corrections	12	25	0	37
Dislike School	201	461	0	662
Repeated Failure	14	60	0	74
Over Age	92	311	1	404
Other	52	112	1	165
Not Reported	49	67	1	183*
Total	602	1,653	5	2,326

*This includes 66 students for whom no additional information is available.

As expected, for each age group, the course of study pursued by the dropout is general education, even among dropouts who have not reached age 16. Nine of ten students who drop out are of the legal age to do so.

TABLE 16

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY AGE AND COURSE

Course	Age				
	Under 15	15	16	Over 16	Total
Academic	2	6	25	51	84
Commercial	0	3	67	80	150
General	23	69	489	673	1,254
Special Education	0	3	32	26	61
Vocational-Regular	1	1	27	55	84
Vocational-Technical	2	5	90	158	255
Not Reported	2	8	139	223	438*
Total	30	95	869	1,266	2,326

*This includes 66 students for whom no additional information is available.

Table 17 reveals several interesting patterns. Those students who drop out from grades seven and eight often are incarcerated in some form of correctional institution (10 students of 41). The same number leave because they dislike school. Since about 50 percent of the dropouts from the seventh and eighth grades leave for reasons of employment, dislike of school, or over age, it may be assumed that these students are actually 16 years or older. For the high school grade levels, reasons for leaving school fall according to the expected pattern. Students are most likely to leave school in the tenth or eleventh grade because they do not like the school environment.

TABLE 17

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY GRADE AND REASON

Reason	Grade 7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Employed	0	3	49	114	141	91	398
Economic	1	0	5	17	14	9	46
Military	0	0	4	18	53	23	98
Marriage	0	1	7	21	63	38	130
Social	1	1	13	19	26	21	81
Physical	0	0	4	3	5	4	16
Expelled	1	0	10	9	7	5	32
Corrections	5	5	15	7	4	1	37
Dislike School	2	8	128	196	207	121	662
Repeated Failure	0	0	15	15	28	16	74
Over Age	2	7	121	122	82	70	404
Other	1	2	36	37	54	35	165
Not Reported	0	1	22	28	44	22	183*
Total	13	28	429	606	728	456	2,326

*This includes 66 students for whom no additional information is available.

According to Table 18, 125 students dropped out before they reached the age of 16. The majority of these students have at least a ninth or tenth grade education. As shown previously, slightly more than 50 percent of dropouts have remained in school until they were 17 or older. For the most part, students over 16 have left during their eleventh or twelfth year of school. Students aged 16 leave during the ninth, tenth, or eleventh grades.

TABLE 18

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY AGE AND GRADE

Grade	Age Under 15	15	16	Over 16	Total
7	6	0	6	1	13
8	1	9	18	0	28
9	14	43	288	84	429
10	5	39	308	254	606
11	2	3	233	490	728
12	2	1	16	437	456
Not Reported	-	-	-	-	66
Total	30	95	869	1,266	2,326

Table 19 displays some interesting patterns. First, 56 (45 percent) of those 15 and younger leave for reasons of marriage, pregnancy, physical disability, expulsion, or incarceration. One of eight leaves because the student dislikes school; it may be of concern to know how these students can be permitted to leave when they have not reached the age of 16. Four gave over age as the reason for leaving, but this may be due to the method of reporting. Reporting personnel are instructed to use the over age category when no other reason is known. Of those dropouts 16 or older, as usual, the majority left for three primary reasons: dislike school, employment, or over age.

Those tables correlating course by reason and grade by course are not included because these offer no new insight into the profile of who drops out of high school.

TABLE 19

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY AGE AND REASON

Reason	Age				Total
	Under 15	15	16	Over 16	
Employed	4	4	149	241	398
Economic	0	1	20	25	46
Military	0	0	7	91	98
Marriage	1	11	47	71	130
Social	2	9	25	45	81
Physical	1	2	3	10	16
Expelled	0	8	12	12	32
Corrections	8	14	6	9	37
Dislike School	5	11	296	350	662
Repeated Failure	0	0	21	53	74
Over Age	1	3	183	217	404
Other	4	21	62	78	165
Not Reported	4	11	38	64	183
Total	30	95	869	1,266	2,326

REFERENCES

1. Putnam, John F. Student/Pupil Accounting: A Handbook of Standard Terminology. Washington, D.C.: United States Office of Education, 1973.

2. Mohrmann, Jeanne. Dropout Report: Delaware Public Schools, 1972-73. Dover, Delaware: November 9, 1973. (Mimeographed).

3. Schreiber, Daniel. Profile of the School Dropout. New York: 1967.

4. Delaware ranks forty-fifth in the nation in counseling provided on K through 6 level and thirty-eighth on the 7 through 12 basis. (Source: Department of Public Instruction and State Board of Education. Annual Report 1973-74. October, 1974.)

APPENDIX A

FORM USED TO REPORT DELAWARE PUBLIC SCHOOL DROPOUTS, 1973-74

School Form

To: Chief School Officers
For: Principals

Due Date: 5th of Each Month

Return to: Research Section
Dept. of Public Inst.
Dover, Delaware 19901

Name of District:_____

Name of School:_____

Signature & Title of Person
Preparing Report:_____

Month Covered by
This Report:_____

REPORT OF DELAWARE PUBLIC SCHOOL DROPOUTS
1973-1974

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

1. Middle schools and junior high schools need submit two reports, one in November and one in June.
2. Summer dropouts should be included in your first fall report, i.e., November should cover July, August, September, and October.
3. If you have had no dropouts this month, check box ☐ and return to DPI.
4. Return original of report.
5. Print names and addresses of all students who withdraw from school, but do not transfer. Do not include transfer or post-graduate students.
6. The digits 1 to 9 should be written with a leading zero, i.e., 01...09 in columns 74 & 75, 76 & 77, 78-83, and 84-87.
7. Start in first box at left for each column, filling in leading zeros as necessary.
8. See directions below for specific coding instructions.

CODING INSTRUCTIONS

Col 1-8 Leave blank.

Col 9-71 Self-explanatory.

Col 72 Sex: Male = 1, Female = 2.

Col 73 Race: Black = 1, White = 2, American Indian = 3, Spanish Surname = 4, Oriental = 5, Other = 6.

Col 74&75 Enter MAJOR reason for stopping using following code:

01	Employment	06	Physical disability	11	Overage
02	Economic reasons	07	Expelled	12	Unknown
03	Armed Forces	08	Correctional institution	13	Other. Please specify.
04	Marriage	09	Disliked school		
05	Social reason	10	Repeated failure		

Col 76&77 Grade in School: Enter [0][7], [0][8], [0][9], [1][0], [1][1], [1][2]

Col 78-83 Date of Birth: "Zero Fill" e.g. March 4, 1972 = [0][3] [0][4] [7][2]

Col 84-87 Date Dropped: "Zero Fill" e.g. September 1972 = [0][9] [7][2]

Col 88 Course in School: Use code below.

1	Academic
2	Commercial
3	General
4	Special Education
5	Vocational, regular school
6	Vocational, County Voc-Tech School
7	Information not available

Col 89 Leave blank

Col 1-8 Leave Blank | Col 9-19 First Name | Col 20-33 Last Name

Col 34-53 Name & Street Address or Rural Route | Col 54-66 City, Town or Post Office

Col 67-71 Zip Code | Col 72 Sex | Col 73 Race | Col 74-75 Reason for Stopping | Col 76-77 Grade in School

Col 78-83 Date of Birth (Mo Day Yr) | Col 84-87 Date Dropped (Mo Yr) | Col 88 Course in School | Col 39 Groves District

Col 1-8 Leave Blank | Col 9-19 First Name | Col 20-33 Last Name

Col 34-53 Name & Street Address or Rural Route | Col 54-66 City, Town or Post Office

Col 67-71 Zip Code | Col 72 Sex | Col 73 Race | Col 74-75 Reason for Stopping | Col 76-77 Grade in School

Col 78-83 Date of Birth (Mo Day Yr) | Col 84-87 Date Dropped (Mo Yr) | Col 88 Course in School | Col 89 Groves District

Col 1-8 Leave Blank | Col 9-19 First Name | Col 20-33 Last Name

Col 34-53 Name & Street Address or Rural Route | Col 54-66 City, Town or Post Office

Col 67-71 Zip Code | Col 72 Sex | Col 73 Race | Col 74-75 Reason for Stopping | Col 76-77 Grade in School

Col 78-83 Date of Birth (Mo Day Yr) | Col 84-87 Date Dropped (Mo Yr) | Col 88 Course in School | Col 89 Groves District

APPENDIX B

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY DISTRICT, COUNTY,
AND GRADE LEVEL, 1973-74

NUMBER OF DROPOUTS BY DISTRICT,
COUNTY, AND GRADE LEVEL, 1973-74

District	Unknown	Grade 7	8	9	10	11	12	Total 7-12	Enrollment Sept. 30,1973 7-12
NEW CASTLE COUNTY									
Alexis I. duPont	-	-	-	3	7	19	3	32	1,676
Alfred I. duPont	-	-	-	-	16	31	26	73	5,754
Appoquinimink	-	-	-	3	6	4	3	16	1,112
Claymont	-	1	-	11	11	12	10	45	1,749
Conrad Area	-	4	1	11	25	40	20	101	3,078
De La Warr*	7	-	2	13	10	17	15	64	1,636
Marshallton-McKean	2	-	1	20	13	19	10	65	2,077
Mount Pleasant	-	5	5	13	18	14	6	61	2,829
New Castle-Gun.Bed.	-	-	-	74	32	81	26	213	4,138
New Castle Vo-Tech	-	-	-	-	10	21	17	48	1,455
Newark	-	-	1	36	92	59	51	239	7,320
Stanton	5	-	-	4	7	9	22	47	2,835
Wilmington	52	-	7	65	79	92	72	367	6,356
Total	66	10	17	253	326	418	281	1,371	42,015
KENT COUNTY									
Caesar Rodney	-	-	1	44	36	35	38	154	3,766
Capital	-	-	-	23	48	61	31	163	3,261
Kent Vo-Tech	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lake Forest	-	-	4	11	25	32	22	94	1,637
Milford	-	1	-	9	28	19	16	73	1,918
Smyrna	-	-	-	13	15	15	8	51	1,515
Total	-	1	5	100	152	162	115	535	12,103
SUSSEX COUNTY									
Cape Henlopen	-	-	2	6	23	21	19	71	1,712
Delmar	-	-	4	7	8	10	4	33	703
Indian River	-	-	-	30	59	64	15	168	3,024
Laurel	-	-	-	9	11	12	-	32	1,041
Seaford	-	-	-	7	16	34	18	75	1,818
Sussex Vo-Tech	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Woodbridge	-	2	-	17	11	7	4	41	970
Total	-	2	6	76	128	148	60	420	9,268
GRAND TOTAL	66	13	28	429	606	728	456	2,326	63,386

Note: Includes summer dropouts. These data were reported on a monthly basis by each school district.

*102 summer dropouts not included in this report. (Kent and Sussex County Vocational-Technical High Schools did not report dropouts in 1973-74. Students enrolled in these schools are counted within their home districts.)

APPENDIX C

COMPARISON OF NUMBER OF DROPOUTS, 1973-74
VERSUS 1972-73, BY DISTRICT AND COUNTY

COMPARISON OF NUMBER OF DROPOUTS,
1973-74 BY NUMBER IN 1972-73, BY
DISTRICT AND COUNTY

District	Number	
	1973-74	1972-73
NEW CASTLE COUNTY		
Alexis I. duPont	32	28
Alfred I. duPont	73	54
Appoquinimink	16	18
Claymont	45	41
Conrad	101	73
De La Warr	64*	92
Marshallton-McKean	65	73
Mount Pleasant	61	58
New Castle-Gunning Bedford	213	187
New Castle Vo-Tech	48	33
Newark	239	233
Stanton	47	52
Wilmington	367	461
Total	1,371	1,403
KENT COUNTY		
Caesar Rodney	154	96
Capital	163	154
Kent County Vo-Tech	-	-
Lake Forest	94	95
Milford	73	105
Smyrna	51	74
Total	535	524
SUSSEX COUNTY		
Cape Henlopen	71	71
Delmar	33	31
Indian River	168	129
Laurel	32	34
Seaford	75	55
Sussex Vo-Tech	-	-
Woodbridge	41	54
Total	420	374
STATE TOTAL	2,326	2,301

Note: Includes summer dropouts. These data were reported on a monthly basis by each school district.

*102 summer dropouts are not included in this report. (Kent and Sussex County Vocational-Technical High Schools did not report dropouts for either year. Students enrolled in these schools are counted within their home districts.)

APPENDIX D

DEFINITIONS USED IN DROPOUT REPORTING SYSTEM,
STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

DEFINITIONS USED IN DROPOUT REPORTING SYSTEM
STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

*Dropout: The withdrawal of a pupil from school for any reason, except death, before graduation or completion of a program of studies and without transferring to another school. (Page 3 of State of Delaware, School Attendance Register.)

*Summer Dropout: A pupil who left school at the end of the spring term, without completing the twelfth grade, who did not enroll in a school the following fall term.

*Reason for Leaving School (Columns 74 and 75 yellow form)

01 Employment - The pupil left school to seek or accept employment, including employment required to support parents or other dependents.

02 Economic Reasons - The pupil left school because of economic reasons, including inability to pay school expenses, inability of parents to provide suitable clothing, and to help with work at home.

03 Armed Forces - The pupil enlisted or was drafted into the armed forces.

04 Marriage - The pupil left school because of marriage.

05 Social Reason - The pupil left school or was required to leave because of pregnancy.

06 Physical Disability - The pupil left school because of a physical or mental impairment or handicap of a permanent or semi-permanent nature.

07 Expelled - The pupil left school by action of school authorities for reasons such as extreme misbehavior or incorrigibility.

08 Correctional Institution - The pupil was committed to a correctional institution for correction of inappropriate patterns of social behavior.

09 Disliked School - The pupil left school because of an active dislike of one or more aspects of his/her school experience, including lack of appropriate curriculum, and poor relationships with staff and/or fellow pupils.

10 Repeated Failure - The pupil left school because of repeated failures and academic difficulties.

11 Over age - The pupil left school after passing attendance requirement age. Use this reason only if no other reason is available.

12 Unknown - The student left school for a reason which is unknown.

13 Other - The student left school or was required to leave for some known reason, other than those listed above. This reason should be specified, e.g., excessive distance from home to school or to school bus route.